

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are amended. Claims 7-13 are new.
2. Claims 1-6 are not anticipated by Brookner, U.S. Patent No. 6,009,417, under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Although Brookner may show a PSD coupled to a computer in the drawings, the computer 27 of Brookner does not control the franking machine or PSD 22 as described and claimed in Applicants' invention.

In Applicants' invention, the actual display of the franking machine is simulated on the computer. The user then uses the computer to access and control each function of the postage meter or franking machine. This is not the situation in Brookner.

The computer in Brookner does not provide the remote access and control of each function of the franking machine as claimed by Applicant. Rather in Brookner, the personal computer 26 facilitates crediting of funds to the PSD 27. (Col. 4, lines 33-36). The personal computer 26 can also receive a request from a user to print postage and forward information about the request to the PSD 22. The PSD 22 can then provide secure data to the computer for printing. (Col. 4, lines 45-50). The computer does not provide for control of each function of the franking machine.

The only thing Brookner discloses is that the PSD 22 is interfaced to a personal computer 26 (Col. 4, lines 30-32) and that the personal computer 26 can communicate with the PSD. However, Brookner does not disclose or suggest replicating a user interface of the franking machine on the computer and controlling each function of the franking machine from the computer as claimed by Applicant.

Columns 5 and 6 of Brookner discuss interfacing the PSD 22 with a personal computer 26 for communication with a printing device 23. Further discussion of the PSD 22 connected to a personal computer 26 is found in Col. 7, lines 30-54. However, there is no disclosure here of using a personal computer to control the PSD by simulating the user display of the PSD on the computer and controlling all of the functions of the PSD from the computer as claimed by Applicant.

Thus, claims 1-6 are not anticipated and should be allowable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of \$86 for additional independent claims as well as for any other fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,004

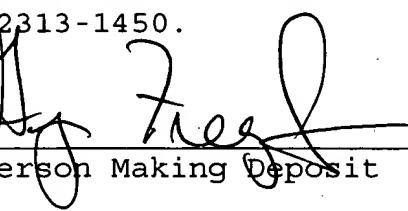
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Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800 Ext. 134
Customer No.: 2512

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